## Appendix A - Law Enforcement Interoperability Questionnaire

#### INTRODUCTION:

Your agency has been selected to participate in a national study on the use of communication systems for interoperating with other public safety agencies. Participation is voluntary, and your responses will be kept confidential. The data will be analyzed by staff at The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center and compiled in a final report. Please indicate below if your agency is willing to be contacted by phone to provide additional information regarding the issue of interoperability and return with the completed questionnaire.

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1) This questionnaire should be completed by the individual in your agency who is most knowledgeable about communication interoperability. Assistance by other personnel, if needed, is encouraged.
- 2) Read each question carefully.
- 3) Answer where requested by completely filling in the appropriate oval (e.g.  $\bigcirc$ ).
- 4) PRINT responses where requested. Leave blank spaces to the left of numbers (e.g. 15).
- 5) The response forms will be scanned electronically, use pencil and make a dark mark. Erase completely to change a response.
- 6) If you wish to expand on the information you are providing, please feel free to make additional comments on page 10 of the questionnaire.
- 7) DO NOT fold, bend, or staple the questionnaire.
- 8) Return the completed questionnaire in the enclosed pre-addressed, stamped envelope as soon as possible.

If you need assistance or additional information, please call Ms. Jeanne Collins at 1-800-416-8086.

Thank you for your participation in this important study.

DATA SUPPLIED BY:																			
Agency Contact:																			
Title:																			
Agency address:																			
City:											St	ate:				Z	ip:		
Enter your 9 digit NC	Enter your 9 digit NCIC-ORI number:																		
Tele:Area code:			Nun	nber	:			-					Exte	nsio	n:				
FAX:Area code:		Nun	nber	r:				-											
E-mail address:																			
Return To:  National Law Enforcement & Corrections Technology Center 2050 East Iliff Avenue - Denver, Colorado 80208																			

$\bigcirc$	Yes, please send a copy of the executive summary of this study.	

Yes, my agency is willing to be contacted by phone to provide more information regarding the issue of interoperability.

### **DEFINITIONS**

1) **Definition of Interoperability:** Essential communication links within or between public safety and public service communication systems that permit units from two or more different agencies to interact with one another and to exchange information according to a prescribed method in order to achieve predictable results. This may include communication between governmental and non-governmental public safety and public service providers.

## 2) Types of Interoperability: Day-to-Day, Mutual Aid, and Task Force

<u>Day-to-Day Interoperability</u> (e.g., High-speed chase across jurisdictions)

- Most often encountered type of interoperability.
- Commonly used in areas of concurrent jurisdiction.
- Commonly used where agencies need to monitor each other's routine traffic.
- If agencies are using different radio bands, may involve the use of multiple radios.

## Mutual Aid Interoperability (e.g., Riots or wildland fires)

- Can involve multiple agencies with little opportunity for prior planning.
- Often requires assignment of several to many small groups, each on their talk group or frequency.
  - Once on scene, typically involves the use of portable and mobile radios.

## Task Force Interoperability (e.g., Counter narcotics operation or major event)

- Usually involves several levels of government (federal, state, and/or local).
- Typically an opportunity for prior planning exists.
- Usually involves use of portable and/or covert equipment.
- Often requires extensive close-range communications.
- Users may rove in and out of infrastructure coverage (metro to rural, in and out of buildings).

## 3) Types of Organizations Involved: Public Safety and Public Service

- Public Safety Organizations include all federal, state, and local agencies that have been given,
   by law, the responsibility for protecting and preserving life, property and natural resources.
- <u>Public Service Organizations</u> include all agencies that help furnish, maintain, and protect the infrastructures that promote the publicis safety and welfare.

### 4) Examples of Different Levels of Organizations: Federal, State, and Local

## Federal Level Organizations

- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Military/Defense Department
- Coast Guard

### **Local Level Organizations**

- City Police Departments
- County Sheriffis Departments
- Fire Departments
- Emergency Medical
- Hospitals
- Private Security

## **State Level Organizations**

- State Police
- State Bureau of Investigation
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Highways/Roads
- State Emergency Preparedness

## Section I. DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Sec	tion I. DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION	3.	To what extent do hinder effective co other organization	ommunica	tion betwe	en your aş	gency and	
			problem)				-	
1.	Which category below best describes your agency? Fill in ONLY ONE.		1 2	3	4	5		
	Municipal Police Department							
	County Police Department		D	CIIADE -				
	State Police Department	4.	Does your agency organizations?	SHARE r	adio freque	encies with	n other	
	Sheriff's Department		◯ Yes		○ No			
	Special Police Department (e.g., campus police, transit, housing, alcoholic beverage control, or park).		C Tes		<u> </u>			
2.	Number of full-time employees in your agency.	5.	<ol> <li>What radio frequencies does your agency use with other public safety and/or public service Fill in ALL that apply.</li> </ol>					
	Sworn		•	_				
	, Non-sworn		O Does not ap					
			Cow band V					
3.	What is the population of your jurisdiction?		High band \					
••			Federal band			)		
	, , People		C Low band U					
			Low band U		_	512 MHz)		
4.	Which of the following best describe the topography/terrain		800 MHz (80	06-869 MH	lz)			
	in which your agency operates? Fill in ALL that apply.		Other					
	Coastal or Intracoastal waterway	6.	HOW OFTEN doe					
	Relatively flat		with the following service organization					
	Rolling hills		service organization	ons (see u	cimitalis (	n page 2)		
	Mountainous			Daily \	Weekly	Monthly \	Yearly	
	Many High-rise Buildings		\	\ Duny \	Weekly	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\ \	
	. Hamiy Tagai Tase Sundangs		Federal Level?					
5.	How many square miles does your jurisdiction cover?		State Level?					
	, Square Miles		Local Level?	$\bigcirc$				
1.	Does your agency have at least one radio channel solely designated for communicating with other organizations?	7.	Identify the TYPE page 2) your agen calendar year with and/or public serv	cy has exp the follo	erienced d wing levels	uring the	1996	
	○ Yes			Day-to-D	ay\ Mutı	ıal Aid \T	ask Force	
			Federal Level?			$\overline{}$		
2.	What is the PRIMARY radio language used by your agency when communicating with other organizations?		State Level?		+	$\bigcirc$		
	Fill in ONLY ONE.		State Level:					
	"Plain" English		Local Level?			$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	
	"Plain" English							
	Code System							
	Other							

8.	Rate your agency's ABILITY to establish a radio communication link with each of the following levels of public safety and/or public service organizations. (where 1 = poor to 5 = excellent.)	13.	Rate the ABILITY of your agency's radio system to effectively handle the three types of interoperability as defined on page 2. (where 1 = poor to 5 = excellent)							
			1 2	3	; \	4	5	\		
	1 2 3 4 5		Day-to-Day?	) (	$\bigcirc$		, (	5		
	Federal Level?		Mutual Aid?	) (	$\overline{\bigcirc}$		, (	$\supset$		
	State Level?		Task Force?	) (	$\bigcirc$		, (	$\supset$		
	Local Level?									
9.	Estimate the total number of public safety and/or public service organizations at each level with which your agency requires radio communication.	14.	Rate your agency's OVERAL interoperability situations 5 y its ability 5 years into the fut (where 1 = poor to 5 = excelle	years ag ure.				ıate		
	•		1  2	$\sqrt{3}$	4	† /	5			
	Number of Organizations		5 years ago?	) (	5 (					
	Federal Level		Today?	) (	) (	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$			
	State Level Local Level		5 years from now?		7 (					
11.	agreement with any of the organizations you indicated in question #9? If no, skip to question #11. If yes, indicate how many for each level.  Number of Organizations  Federal Level  State Level  Local Level  How many mutual aid and task force operations (see definitions on page 2) does your agency participate in during a typical year?  Number of Times  Mutual Aid		each of the following obstacle (where 1 = not a problem to 5)  Different Bands?  Human and Institutional Limitations?  Different Communication Modes (analog vs. digital)?  Different Coverage Areas?  Limitations of Commercial Services?  Lack of Adequate Planning?  Limitations in Funding?				4 \	5		
	Task Force	16.	What LEVEL of interoperabil	ity pla	nning	would	l best s	erve		
			your agency? Fill in ONLY O	NĔ.	Ū					
12.	What is the MAXIMUM number of organizations your agency has had to communicate with during any mutual aid or task force operation?  Maximum # of		<ul><li>Local Region (multi-jurio</li><li>State-wide</li><li>Multi-state Region</li><li>National</li></ul>	liction)						
	Organizations  Mutual Aid	17.	To your knowledge, does you interoperability plan?	ır state	have a	a forma	al writt	en		
	Task Force	18.	Yes No-							

(where 1 = poor to 5 = excellent)

	1 2 3 4 5 Don't	t Know	Yes No - SKIP to question #4
19.	Does your agency currently use the following ty	3. /pes of	Regarding question #2 above, indicate the levels of other organizations that participate in the joint training. Include both government and non-government organizations. Fill in
	WIRELESS voice and/or data security? Please at question with a yes or no.  Yes No	nswer each	ALL that apply.  Federal Level State Level Local Level
	scrambling devices?  digital encryption?  digital voice processing?	- <b>4.</b> -	How well do you believe your agency's training has prepared your staff to handle communication interoperability situations? (where 1 = poor to 5 = excellent)  1 2 3 4 5
20.	How essential is WIRELESS voice and/or data s protection to your agency? (where 1 = not needed to 5 = essential)	ecurity 5.	How familiar is your agency with the following? (where 1 = no knowledge to 5 = very knowledgeable)
	VOICE Security?		Project 25 Standards?
21.	HOW OFTEN does your agency use WIRELESS	voice and/or	FCC Frequency Application Process?  NPSPAC Guidelines?
	data security protection?  Never Dly Wkly Mthly VOICE Security?	y Yrly \	Dept. of Justice Internet Sites?
	DATA Security?	Sec	ection IV. COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
Sect	ion III. INFORMATION AND TRAINING	1. you	Indicate the types of communication equipment used by our agency. Fill in ALL that apply.
1.	How important is each source of information to when planning for the purchase of communicate technologies?  (where 1 = not important to 5 = extremely important to 6 = extremely import	ion	Hand-held land mobile radio  Vehicle-mounted land mobile radio  Citizens band radio  Amateur radio  Telephone line
	Equipment manufacturers?  Professional journals/magazines?		FAX line Cellular phone/voice
	Professional/Trade Conferences?  Independent consultants?  Other government agencies?		Cellular FAX  Mobile pagers  Mobile data terminal (Dumb-Terminal)
	Local college or university?  Other, specify below:	2.	Mobile laptop computer  Which best describes your PRIMARY land mobile radio base system? Fill in ONLY ONE.
2.	Does your agency participate in joint training exother organizations that involve the actual use of communication equipment?		Conventional analog (non-trunked ) Conventional digital (non-trunked)

 $\bigcirc$ 

	Trunked analog		USES	channels
	Trunked digital		None	
			Low band VHF (25-50 MHz)	
9	Description of CHADE the infrastructure for its land			
3.	Does your agency SHARE the infrastructure for its land mobile radio base system with other organizations?		High band VHF (150-174 MHz)	
	Yes No- SKIP to question #5		Low band UHF (450-470 MHz)	
			UHF TV Sharing (470-512 MHz)	
			( 800 MHz (806-869 MHz )	
4.	How involved is your agency in the decision-making process related to the operation of your land mobile radio base system? (where 1 = not at all to 5 = extensively)		Other	
	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	10.	Identify the radio frequencies your age uses for ALTERNATE VOICE & DATA current NUMBER of channels in those	and indicate the
5.	Does your agency own or lease its PRIMARY land mobile			CURRENT
	radio base system? Fill in ONLY ONE.			of ALTERNATE CE & DATA channel:
	Own Lease		USES	CE & DATA channels
			○ None	
6.	How many of the following are in your land mobile radio		Low band VHF (25-50 MHz)	
υ.	base system? If none, place a zero (0) next to the		High band VHF (150-174 MHz)	
	corresponding item.		Low band UHF (450-470 MHz)	
	Fixed radio transmitter sites		UHF TV Sharing (470-512 MHz)	
	Radio repeaters		800 MHz (806-869 MHz)	
	Gateways		Other	
	Relays			
		11	December of the second second second	
7.	Approximately how old is your land mobile radio base	11.	Does your agency have the ability to pa	ucn across channels?
	system?		○ Yes ○ No -	SKIP to question #14
	years old			
8.	Identify the radio frequencies your agency CURRENTLY uses for VOICE-ONLY communication and indicate the current NUMBER of channels in those radio frequencies.	12.	How many simultaneous cross patches	can be set up?
			# of cross-patches	
	CURRENT CURRENTLY # of VOICE-ONLY USES channels			
	None	13.	Is a dispatcher REQUIRED to set up an patch?	d break down the
	Low band VHF (25-50 MHz)		paten	
	High band VHF (150-174 MHz)		○ Yes ○ No	
	Low band UHF (450-470 MHz)			
	UHF TV Sharing (470-512 MHz)			
	800 MHz (806-869 MHz)			
9.	Other  Identify the radio frequencies your agency CURRENTLY uses for DATA-ONLY communication and indicate the current NUMBER of channels in those frequencies.			
	CURRENT CURRENTLY # of DATA-ONLY			

	How serious are the follow land-mobile radio system?	g your		oes your ag oordination	ency PAY outs services?	iders for	rauto s	pectru	m freq	uency	
	(where 1 = not a problem to	o 5 = major problem)			○ Yes			No			
	\1	1  2  3  4	5								
	Not enough channels?			20.	How many	times does you	r agency	interac	t with	a radi	D
	Not enough talk groups?	0000				equency coord					
	Dead spots?	0000				Times per ye	ar				
	Fading?										
	Frequency Interference?			91	Have satisf	ad is vous over		ha fall	~~~ <del>!</del> ~~	2	
	Static?	0000		21.		ed is your ager very satisfied (					
	Battery problems?										_
	Not enough equipment?						1	2	3	4	5
	Outdated equipment?				FCC Licer	sing procedure	es?			$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
	Equipment Size/Weight?	0000			FCC Regu					$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
					FCC Adm	inistrative lures?				$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
	If you marked "not enough				Proces						
	problem, estimate the num your agency needs for each										
	ADDITIONA	L VOICE-ONLY Chann		22.	Indicate Al within the	L services you next 5 years. If	r agency   vour agei	USES o icy doe	or PLA es not i	NS TO use or i	) USE plan
	ADDITIONA	L DATA-ONLY Chann	iels			of the services,			•		
	ADDITIONA	L ALTERNATE VOICE	E &		Currently	Plan to Use					
	DATA	Channels			Use	(within 5 yrs)					
						0	Cellular	/Voice	<u>;</u>		
	To what extent does topogreffectiveness of your land	mobile radio base syste				$\circ$	Cellular Data	Digita (CDPD		et	
	(where 1 = no problem to 5 1 2 3	5 = major problem)				0	Persona Syste	l Comr m (PCS		itions	
		( ) ( )					-				_
							Speciali Radio	zed Mo (SMR)			
17		. DADIO CRECTRIM			0		-	(SMR)	)	m	
	Who handles your agencyí LICENSING issues?	s RADIO SPECTRUM			0	0	Radio	(SMR) Satellite	e Syste	m	_
	Who handles your agencyí LICENSING issues?				0	0	Radio Mobile :	(SMR) Satellite	e Syste	m	
	Who handles your agencyí	s RADIO SPECTRUM  The count  The state				0	Radio Mobile :	(SMR) Satellite Position	e Syste	m	
	Who handles your agencyí LICENSING issues?  My agency	<ul><li>The count</li><li>The state</li></ul>	ty	23.		0	Radio Mobile : Global I Syste	Satellite Position m (GPS	e Systening	m	
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	Who handles your agencyí LICENSING issues?  My agency A regional group	<ul><li>The count</li><li>The state</li></ul>	ty	23.		agency use a m	Radio Mobile : Global I Syste	Satellite Position m (GPS	e Systeming	m	
18.	Who handles your agency? LICENSING issues?  My agency  A regional group  Other, please specify by the second of th	The count The state pelow  s your RADIO FREQUI	ENCY		Does your a	agency use a m No - S	Radic Mobile: Global I Syste	o (SMR) Satellite Position m (GPS ing sys	e Systeming  stem?		bile
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ω <b>σ.</b>	Yes 1	No	31.	. Identify the radio frequencies your agency needs for DATA- ONLY communication for its NEXT land mobile radio system and indicate the TOTAL NUMBER of channels it will need in those radio frequencies.				
26.	Does your agency use the following networks to interoperate with outsi Fill in ALL that apply.			NEEDS None	TOTAL # of DATA-ONLY channels			
	National Crime Information Ce	nter (NCIC)		Low band VHF (25-50 MHz)				
	National Law Enforcement Tele	etype System (NLETS)		High band VHF (150-174 MHz)				
	Cal Area Network (LAN)			Low band UHF (450-470 MHz)				
	○ Wide Area Network (WAN)			UHF TV Sharing (470-512 MHz) 800 MHz (806-869 MHz)				
27.	Does your agency have plans to rep upgrade its land mobile radio syste			Other				
	Yes No - SKIP to que	estion #33	32.	Identify the radio frequencies your age ALTERNATE VOICE & DATA commu land mobile radio system and indicate of channels it will need in those radio	nication for its NEXT the TOTAL NUMBER			
28.	In what year does your agency plan substantially upgrade its land mobi				TOTAL ALTERNATE VOICE & DATA			
	19 or 20			NEEDS channels	VOICE & DATA			
29.	What is your agency's PREFERENCE mobile radio system? Fill in ONLY  Conventional analog (non-true)  Conventional digital (non-true)  Trupked apples	ONE. nked)		None Low band VHF (25-50 MHz) High band VHF (150-174 MHz) Low band UHF (450-470 MHz) UHF TV Sharing (470-512 MHz)				
	<ul><li>Trunked analog</li><li>Trunked digital</li></ul>			<ul><li>800 MHz (806-869 MHz )</li><li>Other</li></ul>				
	○ Unknown							
30.	Identify the radio frequencies your VOICE-ONLY communication for i radio base system and indicate the channels it will need in those radio	ts NEXT land mobile FOTAL NUMBER of frequencies.  TOTAL # Of VOICE-ONLY	33.	What is the TOTAL number of mobile lap-top computers your agency CURRE place a zero (0) next to the corresponding # Mobile Data Terminals # Lap-top Computers	ENTLY uses? If none, ng item.			
	NEEDS	channels						
	None Low band VHF (25-50 MHz) High band VHF (150-174 MHz) Low band UHF (450-470 MHz) UHF TV Sharing (470-512 MHz) 800 MHz (806-869 MHz) Other	2)	34.	What is the TOTAL number of mobile lap-top computers your agency estimat year 1999? If none, place a zero (0) next item.  # Mobile Data Terminals # Lap-top Computers	es it WILL USE in the to the corresponding			

35. Regarding mobile data terminals and lap-top computers identify the types of WIRELESS DATA communication (not voice) your agency currently USES and PLANS TO USE within the next 2 years. Fill in yes or no for each type.

	Curr U:	ently se	Plans to Use (within 2 years)		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Free Text?	0	0	$\bigcirc$	0	
Data Base Information?	0	0	0	0	
Still Images (e.g., photos or maps)?	0	0	0	0	
Fingerprints?	0	0	0	0	
Video?	0	0	0	0	

36. Independent of your agencyís plans, rate its NEED for the following types of WIRELESS DATA communication. (where 1 = no need to 5 = extreme need)

	1	2	3 \	4	5
Free Text?	$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Data Base Information?	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Still Images (e.g., photos or maps)?	0	0	0	0	0
Fingerprints?	0	$\bigcirc$	0	0	0
Video?					

37. How important will interoperability ISSUES be to your agency when it purchases its next land mobile radio system? (where 1 = not important to 5 = extremely important)

1	2	3	4	5
$\bigcirc$				$\subset$

38. How important will interoperability STANDARDS be to your agency when planning for its next land mobile radio system? (where 1 = not important to 5 = extremely important)

1	2	3	4	5
$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	

39. How likely is it that your agency will adopt the Association for Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Project 25 Interoperability Standards for its next land mobile radio system? (where 1 = highly unlikely to 5 = highly likely)

1	2	3	4	5
$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	

# **Section V ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The responses to the following questions will be scanned by a computer.

Please PRINT and stay within the boxes provided. Continue
on the next page, if needed.

	e explain.
-	
_	
_	
	lave you experienced a situation where the ability to interoperate with other agencies was impeded?  Yes  No If yes, briefly describe the situation and adjustments that were made.
Л	What regulatory or licensing policies/procedures limit your ability to achieve interoperability?
'n	What operational, technological or political issues do you think should be considered in the planning inplementation of a nationwide WIRELESS network for public safety and emergency preparedness intities at all levels of federal, state and local government?
e	s new technologies are introduced and digital communications mature, do you think there should be ederal or state mandates with ìdate-certainî timelines to ensure interoperability? — Yes — No lease explain your reasons.
	- ·

# Place additional comments here.

If continuing comments from one of the questions on page 10, please note the number of the question.

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-	
L	
ľ	
1	